



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

February 2017

newsletter

FBC Brady, TX

325-597-2956

<http://fbcbrady.org>

Vol. 18, No. 2

A new focus, worthy of the cross

by Dr. Kevin McDonald

Excerpt from The Screwtape Letters, C.S. Lewis, 1942:

My Dear Wormwood,

Be sure that the patient remains completely fixated on politics. Arguments, political gossip, and obsessing over the faults of people they have never met serves as an excellent distraction from advancing in personal virtue, character, and the things the patient can control. Make sure to keep the patient in a constant state of angst, frustration, and general disdain towards the rest of the human race in order to avoid any kind of charity or inner peace from further developing. Ensure the patient continues to believe that the problem is “out there” in the “broken system” rather than recognizing there is a problem with himself.

Keep up the good work,

Uncle Screwtape

This made the rounds on Facebook yesterday. I hope you do not need me to point out its relevancy to your/OUR life. Some of us have endured the last eight years, some of us have celebrated them. Now the shoe is on the other foot, and some of us are convinced all will be made right, and others of us are not. Please note I use the word “US” and not “THEM”. We are united by something eternal. We have (“WE”, not “THEY”) allowed ourselves to be carried off by politics and personal opinion. WE, of all people. I have done a little research, and guess what: the wedge of the distraction of presidential politics is nothing new. It goes back to George Washington. In my life there was the Catholicism of Kennedy, the crudeness of LBJ (Trump has no monopoly on that), the corruption of Nixon, Ford’s and Carter’s supposed naiveté, Bush’s elitism, Reagan’s hawkishness, Clinton’s ethical and moral failures, W’s entry into the Middle East, and you may pick your favorite Obama failure.

In 1942 C.S. Lewis saw his present and it apparently looked no different from ours. Think about how accurate his words from 75 years ago were and continue to be, and be ashamed. Let’s leave politics behind. Let’s remember we have our own set of prophets, and they don’t have radio shows, blogs, or work for billionaires. In this matter, let us remember the words of one of our prophets: “All we like sheep have gone astray...” (Isaiah 53:6) and then do what the prophets told us to do: repent. “Let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.” (Hebrews 12:1) We already have a Savior--the one who made the elephants and rode a donkey. Let’s find a new focus, one worthy of the cross.

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International



Missions

Our goal: \$2500

**Our giving as of 1-30:
\$2879.00**

**Thank you to
everyone who
donated to this
important offering and helped
exceed our goal.**

Proposed change in by-laws

The Constitution and By-laws Committee is proposing the following change in the church by-laws:

The document now reads, under Article III, Section II: *The regular monthly business conference shall be the second (2nd) Sunday night in each calendar month.*

The proposed change reads: *The regular monthly business conference shall be the third (3rd) Sunday night in each calendar month.*

This change will be voted on at the February 12 business meeting.

Kitchen renovations near completion

The improvements being done in the kitchen in the main building should be completed within the next two weeks, according to Jackie Maxcey, chair of the Properties and Services committee.

Upgrades include new countertops, new cabinet doors, new drawers, a shortening of the island, and painting.

Jackie asks for prayers for the smooth completion of the work.

Thank you to Jackie and the other members of this committee—Charlie Bush, Charlie Elliott, Ed Weber, Jerry Caraway, and Farion Morton—for their management of this project.

And another committee to thank. . .

Everyone appreciated the hard work of the Hospitality Committee this past Sunday when we had the 5th Sunday fellowship meal in the FLC. This group always works hard to make these meals possible and enjoyable for all.

Thank you to Susan Turk, Lynn Munden, Jeanagayle Behrens, Alicia Williams, Pete Barrera, Kay Holloway, Carol Bedwell, and Wanda Burns.

Calling all volunteers:

Mission trips 2017

These mission trips and projects are in the prayer and planning stage:

1. A 3-day Navajo women’s Bible study and crafts class at Tinian Baptist Church and Eagle Spring Baptist Church, both near Cuba, New Mexico, leaving Brady on Saturday, March 11, and returning the following Thursday or Friday.
2. A mission week in Mercedes, TX, June 18-23, assisting Julian Garcia of McAllen with VBS, a sports camp, meals, and prayer walking.
3. The Mission at Brady, the first two weekends of June. This is a multi-church project to work on 10 local homes, making them warm and dry. Volunteers of every skill level are needed.

Please consider and pray about these opportunities for you and your family to get involved. Mission trips are life-changing!

The Missions Committee (Becky Martin, Pat Matula, Ida Owens, Marsha Gainer, and Sharon McDonald) has more information about each of these projects and would be glad to talk to you! Also Betty Smith has more info on the NM Navajo trip.

Church history

FBC to be 130 years old in 2017

First Baptist Brady was organized in November 1887 with nine charter members.

The church met in the Brady Courthouse, the high school, and the Methodist Church until a building was constructed at 6th and Elm in 1902-1903 and dedicated in 1907. This white frame, one-story building had one room.

The church built a 3-story brick building on the same site in 1924 (basement) and 1929 (second and third floors). An education building was added in the 1950s.

The current building was completed and dedicated in 1985. The Family Life Center was built in 1998.

This year will mark 130 years of ministry for Christ in Brady and beyond.

Preschool news

Love, love, love! It’s all about love — AND nursery rhymes in February at Godly Impressions. We will be learning about the letters L, V, J, H and W as well as the color pink and the heart shape. Our Valentine parties will be on Wednesday, Feb. 15 so that all of our friends can attend.

We will continue reading stories out of the New Testament, and our memory verse will be “Come follow me,” Jesus said. “I will make you fishers of men,” Matthew 4:19.

If you would like to support this outreach ministry in any way, please come visit with me or email me at

godlyimpressionsfbc@gmail.com.

Blessings,
Holly Stewart



Godly
Impressions
Preschool
Director

Youth news

by Gabe Rios, Youth Minister

Hello to all the Brady and surrounding area youth (grades 6th-12th) and to your parents! The purpose of this section of the FBCB Newsletter is to let you know of upcoming events and the accomplishments of our youth. Kids are allowed to begin arriving at the church/ family life building right after school on Wednesdays! We open at 3:30pm so all kids, middle school and high school, are welcome to come and do homework, play video games, play in the gym, outside, or play board games etc... At 6:30pm we eat a great meal together and around 7pm we will head back to the youth room for worship and a lesson. Youth group ends at 8pm, so please make the proper arrangements to get home on time and PLEASE invite your friends from school to come join us.

Food is taken care of by Stephanie McKay, Matt Popnoe, Lynn Munden, Jeanagayle Behrens, and Jerlene Smith and we are very grateful! If anyone is interested in helping out with the youth or special events call or text Gabe @ [830-391-4367](tel:830-391-4367).

Recurring events:

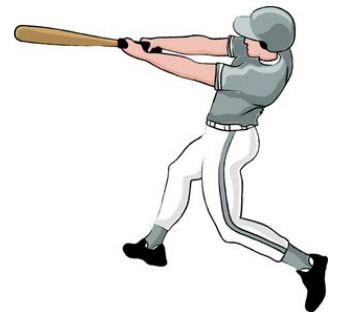


*Sunday Night Hoops - every Sunday night starting at 7:30pm the gym will be open to high school age and up, to come fellowship and play some basketball. We have been averaging 20-25 a Sunday and would love to have you! Occasionally we will also play during the week on a Tuesday or Thursday at 7pm. Text Gabe to get updates on when the gym will be open.

*Sunday School is ongoing every Sunday from 10:00 – 10:40am. I meet with the youth in the Family Life Center. We would like to have many youth attend in the mornings.

Lunch - I've enjoyed attending middle school lunches and high school lunches and have met a bunch of new kids! For high school kids, every Monday I am available to pick y'all up in front of the school and take y'all out to eat in town.

School Activities - Basketball season is ending soon and baseball season will be beginning! It's been great seeing all the kids play this season! Great job and go dogs!



Youth THEME Dinner - we had an awesome meal in January with a New Year's themed dinner which was orchestrated by Victoria Norrell and Misty Urban! Thanks so much for helping make these dinners possible! This month we will doing a Valentines theme for dinner on the 15th. To help with cost of this event we ask that each kid bring \$1 for their meal.



Youth group - We are STILL continuing to grow each week since the beginning of school and the kids deserve a lot of the credit because they are inviting friends from school. Hopefully we can see that number continue to grow! It's been amazing to see what God is doing in the youth group.

Upcoming events:

Youth summer camp Fajita Fundraiser
TBA soon!

March- we may have an opportunity to see a Super star athlete speak...details will be coming soon.

Summer camp - Mt. Lebanon July 2-7.

FORMS for summer camp will be available as soon as they are released. Fifty dollars right now will reserve your spot for the camp.

IMPORTANT – If a Wednesday is not listed here as a special event or as “no youth,” we are having a regular youth night. If there are any concerns that you as students or parents may have please feel free to contact me. Thank you for your prayers and support.

God bless,
Gabe Rios, Youth Minister

Keith's Konnections

by Keith Simpson, Ministry Director, Lake Ivie Baptist Association

Did you ever have one of those months that “the hurrier I go, the behinder I get?” That seemed to somewhat sum up the month of January around the office with both Starr and me. I have decided also that the older I get, the faster life comes at me. I’m sure most of us feel this way at times, but there is a resolution to this particular situation, and that is through spending time with God. I am trying even harder to just “Let Go and Let God” in 2017, but I find it a difficult task. As is true for most of us, I oftentimes want to be in control of any and all situations, but I realize that most often, I am in control of absolutely NOTHING! My attitude is changing slowly to one of being more flexible, more adaptable, and hopefully more reliant that God will work things out, if I will only remove myself from the equation. We should all adopt an attitude of complete surrender to the will of God and let Him have complete control of our lives. I remember reading about the 5 X 5 rule a few years ago, which stated that if it won’t matter in 5 years, then why spend more than 5 minutes on it now. The premise sounds great, but almost impossible to uphold, “but with God, all things are possible.”

February will bring new challenges to our churches and communities as well as new opportunities for us to come together to fellowship and “edify” one another. Each church member needs to pray for the members of their respective church, for the leadership of the church, and more especially for their pastor. I also would encourage you to pray for other churches in the association and for the association in general. Just recently, three churches have undergone some staff changes that will certainly affect their church, so I know that they would covet your prayers as they go through this transitional phase.

And speaking of February, we will be sponsoring our **Senior Adult Rally** on February 22 at 11:00 a.m. at the FBC, Santa Anna. Our speaker will be Glenn Justice, retired history professor at UTPB, who has researched extensively our area, and will give us a report on early settlements around the west central Texas vicinity, from the native Americans to the Spanish explorers who established missions in our geographical setting, including San Clemente mission near Lake Ivie. The program will start at 11 a.m. with music provided by the Millersview Melody Makers and will be followed by a fellowship meal provided by FBC, Santa Anna at approximately 11:30-11:45, after which Mr. Justice will make his presentation. We will conclude by 1 p.m., and I encourage each church to participate in this free event. Also remember our breakfasts in February, and remember that anyone is welcome to attend. It is always a great time of food and fellowship.

Also, in March, we are putting together a “**Hill Country GO Conference**” to be held on March 25 at FBC, Mason from 9 a.m. until about 2 p.m. with Dr. Gregg Wallace and Scott Willingham presenting ideas on evangelism and discipleship training. Dr. Wallace is the author of the 4 X Four Evangelism training and Scott is an apologist that will help us understand the complexities of being able to defend our faith. Ryan Buck, pastor at FBC, Mason, is coordinating this event and will be inviting other churches around the Mason, Fredericksburg, and Llano areas as well as all our associational churches. I will be sending out a flyer about this in the upcoming month or two and it will be free of charge. We also are planning a mission trip to the Paisano Baptist Assembly in Alpine later on, as well as a Conflict Management workshop, and some summer mission opportunities. Stay tuned for further details. These workshops/seminars are to enlighten our churches and pastors regarding vital issues facing our churches today, and I would like to encourage all to attend any or all of these.

II Chronicles, 20:15 states in the latter part of that verse, “Thus saith the Lord unto you, Be not afraid or dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God’s.” (KJV) We are never in the battle of life alone. Jesus promised to never leave us nor forsake us (Heb. 13:5) and that He would be with us always, even to the end of the world.

Upcoming Events!

February

6th Brady Breakfast
7th Admin Team Meeting
13th Coleman Breakfast
14th Happy Valentine’s Day
20th Ballinger Breakfast
22nd Senior Adult Rally

March

6th Brady Breakfast
12th Daylight Saving Time
13th Coleman Breakfast
20th Ballinger Breakfast
25th Hill Country “GO” Conference
@ FBC Mason

*Happy
Valentine's
Day*

“For God IS Love.”

1John 4:8



Please continue to be in prayer
for our pastor-less churches:
El Cordero, Santa Anna
Tennyson Baptist Church
Seventh Street Baptist Church
Novice Baptist Church
Fellowship Baptist Church
First Baptist Church, Winters

Senior Adult Rally
February 22nd
When: 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Where: First Baptist Church
Santa Anna
Speaker: Glenn Justice.
Music: Millersview Melody
makers
(Lunch Provided)
FREE FOR EVERYONE!!!
PLEASE RSVP!!!!!!!!!!!!

Please be in prayer about
our mission at Paisano Baptist
Assembly in Alpine ,
Texas.

Keith Simpson
Ministry Director
P.O. Box 639 Ballinger, TX
Cell: 325-456-0928
Email: keithsimpson47@gmail.com

Starr Sims
Ministry Assistant
Office: 325-365-2585
Cell: 325-718-7402
Email: lakeiviebaptist@yahoo.com
Website: www.lakeiviebaptist.com

Let us praise and appreciate “the saints” among us.

by Becky Elliott

Paul taught us to say in Phillipians 1:6

*I am certain that God, who began the good work with you,
will continue his work until it is finally finished
on the day when Christ Jesus returns.*

The psalmist said,

*“O God, you have taught me from my earliest childhood,
and I constantly tell others about
the wonderful things you do.
Now that I am old and gray,
do not abandon me, O God.
Let me proclaim your power, your mighty miracles
to this new generation,
to all who come after me.
Psalm 71: 18*

Jon Mohr, one of our contemporary hymn writers, gave us words and music to a contemporary song that even our oldest members can proudly sing, “Find us Faithful.” It’s in our new Baptist Hymnal on page 598.

*Oh, may all who come behind us find us faithful;
May the fire of our devotion light their way.
May the footprints that we leave
Lead them to believe,
And the lives we live inspire them to obey.
Oh, may all who come behind us find us faithful.*

Below is a picture of “the saints” gathered faithfully for Sunday School on a cold windy day in January 2017. These dear ones represent the foundation of our fellowship of believers. They sacrifice their comfort and health to be faithful to remembering the Sabbath and to come to church to study God’s Word together. Some have been doing this faithfully for over 80 years. They were faithful as young people, then as young adults, then as teachers, and now as senior adults.

Thank God for their obedience.



*Gleaners Class on January 22, 2017: Doris Collins,
Ethel Blackwell, Becky Elliott, Geneva Joslin, Mabel
Jones, Mary Ballew, Carol Ramsey*

February 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 Charlie Bush	2	3	4
5 Codi Walters <i>Deacons meeting</i>	6 Deryl Bishop Janie Lowry Kelli Medrano <i>LIBA Brady breakfast, 8:30, El Flamingo</i>	7 Mike Easley Shane Owens	8	9 Betty Smith	10 <i>Food Pantry food distribution , 9:00-noon</i>	11
12 <i>Business meeting</i>	13 Carson Brandenberger Tiffany Garner <i>Triple S, noon</i>	14 Ray Ash <i>Grace Class meeting./brunch, 9:30, FLC</i>	15 Betty McMillan <i>Preschool Valentine parties Youth Valentine's dinner</i>	16 Bracken Bean Kim Galindo	17	18
19	20	21 David Hernandez	22 <i>LIBA Senior Adult Rally, FBC Santa Anna, 11:00 to 1:00</i>	23	24 Bobbie Petty	25
26	27 Annie Roberts <i>Triple S, 5:30</i>	28 Virginia Vinson (29th)				

Weekly Events

Sunday

- 9:45 AM Sunday School
- 10:50 AM Morning Worship
- 6:00 Bible study
- 7:30 Sunday Night Hoops, FLC

Monday

- 4:00 Ladies Bible study home of Mary Ballew
- 6:30 CWJC, Building Men for Christ

Tuesday

- 6:30 Tuesday night ping-pong

Wednesday

- 7:00 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast Presbyterian Church
- 3:30 FLC open for youth
- 5:30-7:15 AWANA
- 6:00 Adult prayer meeting
- 6:30 Youth meal
- 7:00-8:00 Youth worship and Bible study

Thursday

- 9:45-12:00 Food Pantry: donated food brought from Walmart to the church
- 2:00-3:30 Dorcas quilting ministry

Greeters for February

- Feb. 5 Laurie Morton and Ethan Roberts
- Feb. 12 Melanie and Jeremy Couvillion
- Feb. 19 Laurie Morton
- Feb. 26 Laurie Morton

Deacons on call in February

- James Mallow 567-2373, 456-6988
- Charlie Elliott 597-0066, 280-6669

Food Ministry Report

December 2016

- Families: 127
- Adults: 160
- Children: 57
- Adults over 65: 28

January 2017

- Families: 123
- Adults: 147
- Children: 77
- Adults over 65: 28

Food distribution day for this month is February 10 from 9:00-12:00.

FYI: Total individuals fed from May 2006-January 2017: 28,563



Broadcasts on KNEL 95.3 FM

Sunday morning: live broadcast at 11:00 AM

Weekdays: Morning Devotional at 7:45 AM

Thanks to Becky Martin, Gwen Bush, Kay Holloway, and Becky Elliott for recording radio spots in January.

February devotionals will be done by Rod Young, Lynn Munden, Judy Oden, and Bobbie Ann Williams.

Pray without
ceasing. . .

This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.
1 John 4:10-11

- our nation’s leaders
 - our members in the nursing homes
 - our homebound members
 - the lost and un-churched in our community
 - Brady children & youth
 - Our Sunday School
 - Our preschool
 - AWANA

Joseph Aguirre
Louise Baker
Nate Bernal
David Bishop
Tina Durst Cellars
Tammy Childs
Wayne Collier
- Sherry Cox
Susan Davenport
Aneta Doyal
Joy Doyal
Daltyn Farris
Mindy Gober
Holly Groves
Velma Hendley
Jimmy and Sherrie Hodges
Curtis and Genna Jennings
Charles and Jerry Jordan
Stephanie LaFuentes
Mary Beth Lewis
Janie Lowry
Mike Lowery
Gary Matula
Carol Newport
Nick Palacio
Miley Quick
- Allie Roddie
Wanda Smith
Joe Solis
Tinsley Thompson
Lorene Trujillo
Jack and Susan Turk
Mackie Jo Walters
Tess Warren
Kay Dawn Wilson

In military:
Jon Bradshaw
Howard Brown
Brandon Haymon
Talisha Hendley
David Hernandez
Jose Lopez
Moses Marmolejo
Concho Moore
- Brandon Pfannenstiel
Jace Telford
Joseph Telford
Jonathan Torres
Alisha Slone
Wes Stark
Justin Williams
Ricky Williams, Jr.

We extend sympathy to the families of Lavonda Schwertner and Pam Beasley.

The newsletter is available on the church website: fbcbrady.org. A link can be sent to your email address each month; just send your address to Becky Martin: becky@scottmartin.net.



FIRST BAPTIST
C H U R C H

First Baptist Church
(325) 597-2956
1103 W. 17th St.
Brady, TX 76825
Website: <http://www.fbcbrady.org>
Office email: bradyfbc@gmail.com
Dr. Kevin McDonald, Pastor
597-1926
RaNon Caraway, Secretary
mrc48nona@yahoo.com
Gabe Rios, Minister of Music and Youth
rios_gabe@yahoo.com
830-391-4367
Kay Curry, Financial Secretary
Jerry Caraway, Maintenance Supervisor
Christy McAnally, Nursery Director
Holly Stewart, Preschool Director
godlyimpressionsfbc@gmail.com
Norma Ridout, Pianist
Deryl Bishop, Organist
Becky Martin, newsletter and website editor
456-1256
becky@scottmartin.net

*Be knit together
by strong ties of love.
Colossians 2:2*

Juanita Moffatt to celebrate 100th birthday

To those who might have worked with or known Juanita Moffatt, a former first grade teacher in Brady: she will be 100 years old on March 30th, 2017. If you would like to send her a card, her address is:

Juanita Moffatt
Highland Manor
Nursing Home
550 N. Sherman St.
Fallon, Nevada
89406



Amelia has moved

Amelia Britteon has moved to Junction with her daughter. If you would like to write to her the address is
618 Morgan Lane
Junction, TX 76849
Phone: 210-460-8559

Giving honor to my Lord and Savior
To the Baptist family:
Thank you so much for the food and monies that you so graciously gave to me and my family. It truly was a blessing.
Sandra Bell

On Sunday, January 29, we began receiving a Bereavement Dinner special love offering and will do so again on each fifth Sunday. Grieving families are so thankful for the meal our church provides for them. Thank you for your participation in this ministry, providing food when called upon and donating to this offering. A special thanks to the ladies who organize and serve the meals. This is truly a ministry from the heart.

